



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture
Pacific Region • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (855) 270-2722 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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WEATHER

Hot and dry weather dominated the State this week as a ridge of high pressure built over the western US. The ridge broke down by the weekend, allowing for cooler temperatures and showers across the northern part of the State. Conditions were dry until the weekend, when the ridge began to break down and moisture percolated through the northern parts of the State. There were isolated showers across the northern quarter of the State, with most locations receiving less than a quarter of an inch. Some snow mixed in at elevations above 7,500 feet, but there was no accumulation.

Temperatures reached their warmest of the year due to the upper-level ridge. Highs were typically in the 60s-70s along the coast and in the mountains; 70s-90s in the Central Valley; and 80s-100s in the desert. These temperatures cooled by 10 degrees as the ridge broke down. Lows were frequently in the 20s-40s in the mountains; 40s-50s along the coast; 50s-60s in the Central Valley, with 40s after the ridge broke down; and 50s-70s in the desert, with a few isolated 40s. A few mountain locations dropped into the upper teens on Monday night.

Marine fog/stratus affected some of the more prone areas along the coast and helped to keep afternoon highs significantly cooler than locations a few miles inland. Snowmelt continues on schedule as we head into late spring, with 1 foot patchy snow fields still visible at the highest elevations in the southern Sierras. Snowpack is estimated to be above 7,500 feet in the central Sierras, with highest cover around 2-4 feet. In the northern mountains, snowpack is approximately above 5,500 feet, with max depth around 4-6 feet.

FIELD CROPS

Nearly one-third of the **cotton** crop had emerged by week's end. Reporters indicated various stages of development throughout the Central Valley due to unpredictable rains in recent weeks. Some fields even had to be replanted last week due to heavy precipitation. **Wheat** in the northern Central Valley was ready for cutting or grain harvest. In Tulare County, winter forage and **oat** hay were harvested. Winter wheat was chopped for silage and fields were disced to prepare for summer planting. There have been no pest pressures reported for alfalfa **hay** so far this year. Hot weather in Fresno County accelerated the maturation of all grain crops. **Corn** continued to develop. **Rice** planting was progressing on schedule with half the crop planted by week's end, which was slightly below the five year average for this time.

FRUIT CROPS

Cherries were picked and packed and **grape** bloom finished in Fresno County. In Tulare County, **apricots**, early **peaches**, and **nectarines** were harvested and packed for export. Later varieties of stone fruit continued to be thinned, and the orchards irrigated. Reflecting plastic was placed in some orchards to promote color. Grape vines were having some leaves pulled to improve air flow and sun light. Navel and Valencia **oranges** were harvested. Quality continued to be an issue as the navel crop continued to mature with the warmer weather. Most navel oranges were packed for the domestic market with late varieties exported. Cara Cara, Valencia oranges, and **grapefruit** were harvested, packed, and shipped domestically and exported to foreign markets. Seedless **tangerines** remained netted to prevent cross pollination. Citrus groves were irrigated. **Olive** bloom finished.

NUT CROPS

Pistachios and stored **almonds** continued to be packed in Tulare County. Almond trees showed rapid fruit development. In Fresno County, **walnut** orchards irrigation continued. Sprays were administered to keep the weeks down. Other controls such as mowing were also utilized to manage weeds.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Fresno County, processing **tomatoes** grew rapidly due to warmer weather and were transplanted. **Garlic** and **onion** benefited from the warm weather as well. For tomatoes, the up-and-down temperatures have minimized any immediate pest activity. **Carrots** and **bell peppers** were fertilized and weeded. Early planted **watermelons** have developed fruit, and weeding had begun. Mazuna **mustard** seeds dried. **Broccoli** and early **kale** for seed progressed on schedule. In Tulare County, **strawberries** were harvested and sold at roadside stands. **Blueberries** were harvested for domestic and international markets. Summer vegetables were prepared for harvest in the next few weeks. Early planted **sweet corn** grew well. **Melons** germinated and leafed out. In Monterey County, **lettuce** and **brassicas** were at peak production. In Merced County, early planted tomatoes were past first bloom and growers weeded all the fields.

LIVESTOCK

In San Luis Obispo County, rangeland grazing was strong. Ranchers continued to graze sheep and cattle on rangelands. Sheep continued to graze in small grain and alfalfa fields, fallow fields, and foothill pastures.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/15/2016

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION 1/			
	Average Week Ending 5/15/2016	Departure from Normal 2/	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year 2/	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season 2/	Normal Year 2/
					January 1- 5/15/2016	January 1- 5/15/2016	July 1- 5/15/2016	Week Ending 5/15/2016	July 1- 5/15/2016	July 1- 5/15/2016	July 1- June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days 3/ --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	56	4	67	46	13	0	129	0.02	46.64	36.79	38.10
Ukiah	67	7	87	47	149	50	93	0.00	36.29	38.12	38.90
Santa Rosa	61	0	82	47	95	84	79	0.00	30.54	30.47	31.01
Napa State Hosp	63	2	78	50	144	87	77	0.00	24.87	26.00	26.46
Central Coast											
San Francisco	61	3	71	52	132	35	64	0.00	18.58	19.85	20.11
San Jose	64	1	75	51	247	156	58	0.00	14.77	14.83	15.08
Salinas	59	0	71	49	131	45	54	0.00	13.75	12.75	12.91
Monterey	58	2	69	49	97	2	64	0.00	21.74	19.99	20.35
King City Ag	62	-1	78	46	146	110	53	0.00	9.94	12.15	12.30
Paso Robles	66	4	90	47	152	76	41	0	9.26	12.99	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	72	8	91	53	380	141	84	0.00	41.66	32.12	33.52
Red Bluff	72	5	92	52	339	197	77	0.00	26.38	23.15	24.07
Willows 6W	69	5	89	49	276	149	61	0.00	16.51	18.39	19.03
Oroville	72	7	92	53	327	163	79	0.00	21.41	28.04	28.75
Marysville	70	3	92	52	276	260	72	0.00	21.93	21.52	22.07
Sacramento	69	5	90	52	271	166	64	0.00	17.97	17.52	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	68	2	88	49	256	204	65	0.00	18.98	13.57	13.84
Modesto	72	5	92	54	399	271	50	0.00	15.20	12.76	13.12
Merced Macready	70	5	92	51	265	208	51	0.00	14.66	12.26	12.50
Madera	72	6	96	53	330	229	50	0.00	13.30	11.68	11.94
Fresno	75	7	97	56	446	255	55	0.00	14.73	10.85	11.23
Lemoore NAS	74	7	97	54	376	236	39	0.00	6.82	7.68	7.89
Visalia	74	8	96	56	365	244	49	0.00	9.08	10.74	11.03
Bakersfield	76	7	98	58	565	326	35	0.00	5.42	6.29	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas	55	5	81	30	4	0	106	0.00	14.83	10.72	12.13
Mount Shasta	60	8	82	37	24	0	112	0.22	44.28	37.33	39.16
Blue Canyon	57	6	71	43	18	0	94	0.00	69.55	64.30	66.36
Yosemite Valley	65	9	84	43	47	10	77	0.00	37.53	36.27	37.73
South Coast											
Santa Maria	60	4	71	48	203	23	50	0.00	9.09	13.81	14.01
Santa Barbara	60	-1	69	50	147	141	34	0	11.78	16.76	16.93
Oxnard NWS	63	4	73	55	272	145	29	0.00	8.98	15.52	15.62
Riverside	70	4	93	54	658	323	43	0.00	9.23	10.08	10.22
Los Angeles	63	1	70	56	347	286	38	0.00	10.84	12.99	13.15
San Diego	66	3	71	62	525	373	46	0.00	10.53	10.64	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop	67	6	91	42	89	81	23	0.01	3.54	4.66	5.02
Daggett	78	7	101	55	645	440	32	0	2.93	4.06	4.17
Lancaster ATC	71	6	94	53	260	177	28	0	6.83	7.31	7.40
Thermal	82	5	104	61	1167	907	11	0	2.86	3.48	3.53
Blythe	82	5	103	62	1263	857	18	0	1.86	4.01	4.02
Imperial CA	82	6	102	60	1260	833	14	0	1.09	2.92	2.96

1/ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice).

2/ Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

3/ Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

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